Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 24 Dec 2021 until 23:59 on Saturday 25 Dec 2021

Forecast Issued on Thursday 23 Dec 2021 at 11:23 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for the general setup over the festive period, but inherently lower for the details of low cloud. There is significant uncertainty from Monday onwards.

Headline for Friday 24 Dec 2021: Overnight snow clears to leave cloudy but bright conditions. Windy and very cold.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 24 Dec 2021

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Light snow	Light snow	Mist	Mist	Sunny intervals	Clear night	Clear night
Precipitation probability							
60%	40%	30%	30%	20%	10%	00%	00%

Forecast for Friday 24 Dec 2021

Weather: Early snowfall south of Torridon will fade through the early hours with clearer skies in the north. Then a chilly start with a few lingering snow showers through morning, but the day will be increasingly bright with some sunshine into the afternoon. Clear skies and an early frost through evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 20% increasing 80%.

Visibility: A cloudy, dull start with areas of cloud rather extensive above 500m or so across most ranges, although the immediate West Coast and Skye may only see patches above 700m. From late morning, this will lift and clear from the north to bring much improved visibility and air will have exceptional clarity. Little, if any low level cloud through evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Friday 24 Dec 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	22/32 E	25/36 E	30/43 E	32/45 E	33/47 E	35/51 E	33/49 E	32/47 E	32/47 E
900	24/35 E	26/37 E	30/42 E	31/44 E	32/46 E	34/50 E	34/50 E	32/47 E	31/46 E
600	17/28 E	16/29 E	19/33 E	21/36 E	23/38 E	23/40 E	22/39 E	22/39 E	22/39 E
300	11/23 E	11/24 E	10/28 E	12/31 E	14/34 E	13/35 E	14/34 E	14/34 E	13/35 E
Glen	16/27 E	15/26 E	17/31 E	18/33 E	20/36 E	21/37 E	20/36 E	19/35 E	17/33 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-2/-10	-2/-10	-3/-11	-3/-12	-4/-13	-5/-14	-6/-16	-7/-17	-7/-17
900	-2/-9	-2/-10	-2/-10	-2/-11	-3/-12	-4/-13	-5/-15	-6/-16	-6/-16
600	0/-6	0/-6	0/-6	0/-7	-1/-8	-1/-9	-3/-10	-4/-11	-4/-11
300	1/-4	1/-3	2/-2	2/-2	2/-3	1/-4	-1/-7	-2/-8	-2/-8
Glen	4/-0	5/0	5/0	5/0	5/-0	4/-2	3/-3	2/-4	1/-4
Freezing Level*	600m	600m	600m	500m	400m	200m	00m	00m	00m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Fresh snow cover expected across the southern ranges, this leading to difficult and slow progress in some places. Afternoon sunshine may lead to some glare off the snowpack. Note the risk of gales extends down to around 800m.

Forecast for Saturday 25 Dec 2021

Weather: Cold and clear through early morning on Christmas Day with a widespread frost and little if any low level cloud. It will remain dry and sunny through the day then clear into evening. The keen easterly wind will be a significant feature of the day, however, as winds reach gale force on the most exposed ground.

Maximum wind: East 25-30 gusting 40-50mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 95%.

Visibility: Isolated fog patches are possible in the glens initially, but in general cloud will be limited and well above the summits. Excellent visibility.

Temperature: **Glens:** Around freezing throughout.
At 800m: Minus 5 Celsius. Feeling bitterly cold.
Freezing level: 200m or lower.

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